

IPS Doc. 3171-A

Excerpt from the 5 Jan 1939 issue of the CHUGAI SHIYOGYO SHIMPO
(T.N. a Tokyo daily newspaper)

CONFERENCE OF THE THREE SENIOR ARMY CHIEFS

To Request that Fixed Policies be Thoroughly Carried Out

Since the Imperial Command fell upon Baron HIRANUMA, the Army held the Conference of the Three Senior Chiefs in the afternoon of the 4th. As a result, it had been decided that ITAGAKI would remain in the HIRANUMA Cabinet as the War Minister and that the Army would request, upon the formation of the Cabinet, the following:

1. As for the disposal of the China Incident, the aims of the Holy War, basing upon the decisions of the Imperial Conference, should be thoroughly carried out.
2. In view of the new circumstances in East Asia, the preparation and the expansion of the armament should be realized, the system of national total mobilization should be more strengthened and the expansion of productivity should be increased.

On the 5th, when Baron HIRANUMA met War Minister ITAGAKI, the Army decided to emphasize the above requests.

中外商業新報 昭和十四年二月よりの抜萃

昭和十四年一月五日

陸軍三長官會議

既定方針貫徹を要望

陸軍では平沼男に大命降下するに至つたので四日午後持廻りの三長官會議を行つた結果、平沼内閣に對しては板垣陸相も留任せしめることに決定した。同内閣の成立にあつては陸軍としては

- 一、支那事變の處理に因して市前會議の決定に基き、飽迄聖戰の目的を貫徹すること
- 二、東亞の新情勢に基き、軍備の整備拡充も遂行し、國家總動員体制を益々強化すると共に生産力の拡充に邁進すること。

を要望することに決定し、五日平沼男と板垣陸相との會見の際にはこの要望を強調する方針である。

Doc. 3171A

IPS DOC 3171-B

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EXECUTION OF SEVEN ITEMS

HIRANUMA Requested by the Army

War Minister ITAGAKI, upon the request of Baron HIRANUMA, called at the cabinet organization headquarters at 9 A.M. on the 5th and had an interview with Baron HIRANUMA for about 45 minutes, during which he was asked to remain as the War Minister. After revealing the requests on the part of the Army, as decided by the Conference of the Army Senior Chiefs, ITAGAKI left at 10 A.M. The points, as requested by the Army and revealed to Baron HIRANUMA by the War Minister, were as follows:

1. With regard to the China Incident, basing upon the decisions of the Imperial Conference, and in accordance with fixed policies, the aims of the Holy War should be achieved. Particularly, the Declaration of December 22nd, on the policy of readjusting the relationship with China, should be adopted in its entirety.
2. To cope with the new circumstances in East Asia, the plan for national defense should be established and the preparation and expansion of armament should be the aim.
3. The relations among the three nations, Japan, Germany and Italy, should be closer and strengthened.
4. The system of national total mobilization itself should be reinforced and, moreover, the Planning Board should be expanded and reinforced.
5. All efforts should be made to increase productivity.
6. The national morale should be stimulated.
7. Trade should be promoted.

WAR MINISTER PROMISED TO REMAIN

Reply after the Three Senior Chiefs Conference Today

Having been asked to remain at his post, War Minister ITAGAKI, as soon as he returned to the official residence of the War Minister, immediately asked NISHIO, the Inspector-General of Military Education, to come over to have an important discussion, during which the War Minister explained in detail the negotiation he had with Baron HIRANUMA as to his remaining at his post. After the discussion, together with the Inspector-General of Military Education, NISHIO, he proceeded to the official residence of Prince Kanin, the Chief of the General Staff, at 10:50 A.M. His Highness the Chief of the General Staff granted the interview to them and held the Conference of the Three Senior Chiefs. Besides, at 11:50, War Minister ITAGAKI dispatched Vice Minister YAMAWAKI as his proxy to proceed to the cabinet organization headquarters to reply formally his acceptance to remain at his post.

「中外商業新報 昭和十四年一月六日」の披露
七項目の實行

陸軍側平沼男に要望

Doc 3171-B

板垣陸相は平沼男の招きにより五日午前九時三十分組閣本部を訪問し、翌五令に亘り平沼男と会見陸相は外交を受けながら別項の如き陸軍首脳部会議の結果に基く陸軍側の要望を陳列し同十時辞去した。陸相は陸軍側の要望として平沼男に提示した諸点は左の如くである。

一、その事業要に關しては即前會議の決定に基き不動の方針に依ることを盟戰の目的を達成し特に十二月廿二日の對支國文調整方針に關する聲明は全面的にこれを踏襲すること

一、東亞の新情勢に對する國防計畫を樹立軍備整備充てを期すること

一、日独伊三國關係を一段と緊密に強化すること

一、國策總動員体制を本格的に強化しこれと基に企画院の拡充強化を図ること

一、生産力の充實に全力を擧げること

一、國民精神作興を期すること

一、貿易の振興を図ること

Ex 3303

No. 1

Doc 3171-B

陸相の田中と文諾

けふ三長官会議後回答

留任交渉を受けた板垣陸相は、且陸相官舎
に引揚り西辰教育總監を招き、平沼男爵、田中
交渉を受けた、熊末を説明重要協議を遂げ、
後西辰教育總監と打揃う、同十時五十分
閣院各議員議長官邸に同候、各議員議長官邸下
に退き賜り三長官会議を開き御協議を遂げ
うり、かくて板垣陸相は五日午前十一時五十分
山脇官舎で休憩し、組閣本部に赴き、正式
留任交渉の回答をすしに。

No. 2